

JONES COUNTY WATER SYSTEM AND CURBSIDE SOLID WASTE COLLECTION RULES AND REGULATIONS

I. SERVICES

All services are classified under one category, as general user.

II. RATE SCHEDULE AND TAP-ON FEES

- A. All water rates and tap fees shall be those most recently adopted by the Jones County Board of Commissioners and a schedule of same shall be available upon request at the Jones County Water Office.
- B. Water service to any separate structure shall require separate metering. A user is defined as a house, mobile home, other residence or place of business; and each user must be metered separately.
- C. Blow-off taps will not be used by customers under any circumstances. All tap fees must be paid.
- D. Effective July 1, 2009, Jones County will offer curbside solid waste collection services via a 96-gallon cart. Any Jones County resident or resident of an incorporated municipality with a current inter-local agreement for services can apply for curbside solid waste services through the Jones County Water Department. Each household may apply for a maximum of three carts per address. For a current cost of the curbside service a schedule of fees is available in the Water Department.

III. APPLICATIONS FOR SERVICES

- A. Services will be supplied only to those who have paid the tap fee and deposit.
- B. Applications for services shall be made in person at the office of the Jones County Water system.
- C. Applications for service shall be accompanied by a cash deposit of **\$100.00** for water services and **\$50.00** for solid waste collection and the appropriate tap-fee, if required.
- D. Deposits are refundable upon termination of service and settlement of all accounts. Accounts paid for 12 months on time and established excellent credit with the County will be refunded upon request.
- E. Deposits are non-interest bearing.
- F. Tap-on fees are non-refundable once taps have been installed and once installed, taps will not be relocated without payment of additional tap fee.
- G. All customers are required to make deposit with application for service **unless** the customer has an existing non-delinquent payment record with the water department for at least twelve (12) consecutive months immediately preceding application. Only one deposit will be required from a user with multiple accounts.

- H. The individual in whose name the account is established shall be responsible for payment of all bills incurred in connection with the service furnished.
- I. The deposit receipt is not negotiable and can be redeemed only at the County's office.
- J. Where the County finds that the request for a deposit refund is questionable, the County may require the refund applicant to produce the deposit receipt properly endorsed.
- K. The County may reject any application for service if the County cannot provide a service at a standard cost or if said service may affect the supply of water to existing customers, or for any other good and sufficient reasons deemed necessary by the Board of Commissioners.
- L. The County may reject any application for service when the applicant is delinquent in payment of bills incurred for service previously supplied at any location. When a member of the household has been served water and has not paid for same, the County shall not be required to render service to any other member at said location where the water was used until said water bill has been paid. When all members of the same household move to a new location, service will not be rendered under the name of a different household member until all previous bills have been paid.
- M. For violation of any of the provisions of these rules relating to application for service, the County may at the expiration of thirty days from the date of mailing a written notice to the last known address of the Consumer, discontinue service. Any applicable fees will be charged for reinstatement of services.

IV. BACKFLOW & CROSS-CONNECTION RULES

A. Definitions

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings provided in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Air-Gap Separation. An unobstructed vertical distance through the atmosphere between the lowest opening from any pipe or faucet supplying water to a tank, plumbing fixture, or other device and the flood level rim of the receptacle. An approved air-gap vertical separation *shall* be at least double the diameter of the supply pipe. In no case *shall* the air-gap be less than one (1) inch.

Approved: Certified in writing by the (Person in Responsible Charge) as an acceptable device or methodology for the purpose of backflow prevention.

Auxiliary Intake: Any piping connection or other device whereby water *may* be secured from a source other than public water supply.

Backflow: Any flow of water into the public water supply from any other source due to a cross-connection, auxiliary intake, interconnection, backpressure, backsiphonage, any combination thereof, or other cause.

Backpressure: Any pressure on any source of water other than the public water supply that may be greater than the pressure on the public water supply and *may* result in a backflow.

Backflow Prevention Device: An approved effective device method used to prevent backflow from occurring in the potable water supply. The type of device required *shall* be based on degree of hazard, existing or potential.

Back-Siphonage: Any circumstance in which the pressure on the public water supply *may* be reduced to the point that the elevation and atmospheric pressure on a source of water other than the public water supply *may* result in a pressure to be greater than the pressure on the public water supply and *may* result in a back flow.

Certified Tester: A person who has proven his/her competency to test, repair, overhaul and make reports on backflow prevention devices as evidenced by certification of successful completion of a training program approved by the (Person in Responsible Charge).

Confinement Device: A backflow prevention device, as approved and required, installed within a private plumbing or distribution system to isolate a localized hazard from the remainder of said system.

Consumer: Any person, firm, or corporation responsible for any property at which water from the County public water supply is received. In the absence of other parties or the failure of other parties to accept the responsibilities herein set forth, the owner of record *shall* be ultimately responsible. A backflow prevention device as approved installed at the point of separation between the public water supply and a private service or private distribution system or at the point of metering.

Contamination: The presence of any foreign substance (organic, inorganic, radiological, or biological) in water that tends to degrade its quality as to constitute a hazard or impair the usefulness of the water.

Containment Device: A backflow prevention device, as approved and required, installed at the point of separation between the public water supply and a private service or private distribution system or at the point of metering.

Cross-connection: Any physical connection whereby the public water supply is connected with any other water supply system, whether public or private, either inside or outside of any building or buildings, in such a manner that a flow of water into the public water supply is possible either through the manipulation of valves or because of ineffective check or back-pressure valves, or because of any other arrangement.

Cross-Connection Control Coordinator: The official position established and authorized by the County designated by the (Person in Responsible Charge) to administer, interpret this section and who *shall* be a certified tester.

Double Check Valve Backflow Prevention Device: An approved assembly composed of two (2) single, spring-loaded independently operating check valves, including tightly closing shut-off valves located at each end of the assembly, and having suitable connections for testing the water-tightness of each check valve.

Dual Check Valve: An approved device containing two (2) independently acting check valves in series.

Fire Line: A system of pipes and equipment used to supply water in an emergency for extinguishing fire.

Interconnection: Any system of piping or other arrangement whereby the public water supply is connected directly with a sewer, drain, conduit, pool, heat exchanger, storage reservoir, or other device which does or *may* contain sewage or other waste or substance which would be capable of imparting contamination to the public water supply.

Pressure Vacuum Breaker: An approved assembly containing an independently operating spring loaded check valve and an independently operating loaded air inlet valve located on the discharge side of the check valve. The

assembly must be equipped with suitable connections for testing the proper operation of the device and tightly closing shut-off valves located at each end of the assembly.

Public Water Supply: The water and waterworks system of the County and its customers outside the County limits, for general use and which supply is recognized as the public water supply by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Health and Natural Resources.

Reduced Pressure Zone Principle Backflow Prevention Device (RPZ): An approved device containing within its structure, two (2) spring loaded independently operating check valves, together with an automatically operating pressure differential relief valve located between the two check valves. The first check valve reduces the supply pressure a predetermined amount so that during normal flow and at cessation of normal flow the pressure between the checks *shall* be less than the supply pressures. In case of leakage of either check valve, the differential relief valve, by discharging to the atmosphere, *shall* operate to maintain the pressure between the check valves less than the supply pressure. This device *shall* have suitable connections for testing the proper operation of the device, including tightly closing shut-off valves located at each end of the device.

B. Compliance with Federal and State Law

The County will comply with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the North Carolina Drinking Water Act, and North Carolina State Building Code, which pertain to cross-connections, auxiliary intakes and interconnections, and establish an effective ongoing program to control potential sources of contamination of the public water supply.

C. Unlawful Connections

It *shall* be unlawful for any person to cause a cross-connection, auxiliary intake or inter-connection to be made; or allow one to exist for any purpose whatsoever.

D. Inspection of Property

It *shall* be the duty, upon request of the (Person in Responsible Charge), of the cross connection coordinator to cause inspections to be made of properties served by the public water supply where cross-connections with the public water supply are deemed possible. The frequency of

inspections and re-inspections *shall* be set by the (Operator in Responsible Charge).

E. Right of Access

The (Person in Responsible Charge), or authorized representative, *shall* have the right to enter, at reasonable time, any nonresidential property served by a connection to the County public water supply for the purpose of performing the duties of this article. In those cases in which the property owner chooses not to provide such access, the (Person in Responsible Charge), or authorized representative, *may* designate the location as a high hazard in accordance with the section pertaining to Hazardous Uses.

F. Existing Conditions

Any consumer *shall* be allowed ninety (90) days to correct any cross-connections, auxiliary intakes, interconnections or other hazard as defined by the Hazardous Uses Section of this code in violation of the provisions of this ordinance. The ninety (90) days will be from the date of receipt of the notification given by the Cross Connection Coordinator.

G. Hazardous Uses

1. The following uses *shall* be classified as hazardous uses;
 - A. Hazardous uses include, but are not limited to: pumps and tanks handling sewage, radioactive, lethal, or toxic substances, boiler and steam connections, sewer waste lines, low inlets to receptacles containing toxic substances, coils or jackets used as heat exchangers, flush valve toilets without vacuum breaks, bacterial and viral materials, private wells or other private water supply, irrigation systems, water systems or hose connections, with booster pumps, carbonation equipment, or similar hazard potential as determined by the cross connection coordinator.
 - B. Any location at which the nature or mode of operations within a premises are such that frequent alterations are made to the plumbing or at which there is a likelihood, in the determination of the Cross Connection Coordinator, that protective measures may be subverted, altered, or disconnected.
 - C. Any facility which contains, but is not limited to, a bottling plant, cannery, building have five (5) or more stories,

battery manufacturer, exterminator, greenhouse, chemical processing plant, dairy, dye works, film laboratory, car wash, hospital, commercial laboratory, laundry, metal fabricating operations, mortuary, swimming pool, morgue, x-ray equipment, medical office with laboratory, aspirator, medical washing equipment, packing house, plating plant, poultry house, power plant, nuclear reactor, those fire sprinkler systems equipped with facilities for introduction of freeze preventive chemicals or other substances other than water, dental office, any radioactive material, restaurant, shopping mall with tenant conducting any activity listed in this section and sewage pump or treatment facilities.

2. All installations described in the Hazardous Uses section of this code must have a provided that, if the consumer demonstrates to the satisfaction of the cross connection coordinator that sufficient internal confinement devices have been installed and tested. The cross connection coordinator may require that the consumer provide engineering drawings sealed by a professional engineer of installations within the premises, which provide complete internal protection against cross-connection as approved by the cross connection coordinator. Any such connection *shall* be considered an other connection for determining the type of containment device required. Each internal confinement device *shall* be one of the following, as approved by the (Person in Responsible Charge) or his authorized representative: reduced pressure zone principle backflow prevention device, double check valve backflow prevention device, air gap, vacuum break-pressure type, or dual check valve. Each reduced pressure zone principal backflow prevention device serving as an internal confinement device shall have a mesh strainer immediately upstream of the inlet gate valve.
3. No person *shall* fill any tanks or tankers which include the following: those containing pesticides, fertilizers, other toxic chemicals or residues, flush trucks, street sweepers, and non-potable water tankers from a public water system except with an approved air gap fill or an approved reduced pressure backflow preventer properly installed on the tank or tanker or on the public water supply fill pipeline or hose.

G. Other Connections

1. Services to single family residential units, not otherwise required by this code to have other containment devices,

may have a containment device in the form of an approved dual check valve on all such services which meters are applied more than ninety (90) days following the date of adoption of this ordinance, said dual check valves or other containment devices as required *shall* be installed by the owner's representative prior to the installation of the meter by the Jones County Water Department. On all such services for which meters have been applied prior to that date, said dual check valve shall be installed by the Jones County Water Department, provided that the County reserves the right to charge the owner or occupant of any residence for the cost of said device and its installation. Maintenance of dual check valve containment devices installed in accordance with this section *shall* be conducted by the Jones County Water Department. Testable containment devices that are required on lawn irrigation water systems and must be tested every three (3) years by a contractor that has been approved by the County.

2. All other connections to the public water supply of the County *shall* have containment devices in the form of a double check valve backflow prevention device as set forth in the Other Connections section of this code. This *shall* include water mains installed to County standard, and with County supervision, but which are not maintained by the County including but not limited to manufactured home parks, apartments, group housing projects, and other private distribution systems, or similar hazard potential as determined by the (Person in Responsible Charge), or his authorized representative. Private distribution systems *shall* be configured so as to provide looped mains, with two (2) or more containment devices on each building water service connection and at dead-end branch mains.

I. Installation of Containment Devices

1. The containment devices *shall* be located off street right-of-way on the water main side of any plumbing connections. When installed in a building, the device *shall* be located on the service line immediately after its entrance into the building. Each containment and confinement device *shall* be installed in a location that is physically accessible for inspection and testing as determined by the cross-connection coordinator. Containment devices, which have been buried in the ground, do not satisfy the provisions of this code. Each reduced pressure principle zone device shall

be installed such that flooding of the device is unlikely as determined by the Cross Connection Coordinator.

2. The (Person in Responsible Charge) *shall* maintain a list of approved manufacturers and models of hazard containment devices and drawings of standard installation, copies to be made available through the Office of the Director of Public Utilities and the Chief Inspector's office. All reduced pressure zone principle backflow prevention devices and double check valve backflow prevention devices shall be approved by the Foundation for Cross Connection Control and Hydraulic Research. All vacuum breaks and dual check valve devices shall be approved by the American Society for Sanitary Engineers. All installations and materials shall conform to County standards as set by the (Person in Responsible Charge).
3. In those cases in which containment and/or confinement devices have been previously installed by prior owners, the County or other parties, the responsibility for maintenance, testing, and replacement as applicable *shall* be with the consumer.
4. The cost of said means of containment, and any other plumbing modifications necessary and convenient thereto, and the testing and maintenance thereof is to be paid for by the consumer.

J. New Construction

All buildings, proposing to connect to the public water system of the County receiving tested as properly functioning backflow prevention device(s), as prescribed herein, prior the building prior to the effective date of the Article, or a building permit was not required, the building *shall* be considered to be an existing building prior to the effective.

K. Notification of Consumer

Upon identification of a hazard, or hazard potential, as defined in the Hazardous Uses and Other Connections Sections of this code, the cross connection coordinator, *shall* notify the consumer, of record, of the property on which the hazard exists of the following:

1. Location of Hazard
2. Nature of Hazard Observed
3. Date Hazard Observed
4. Section of Code Applicable
5. Requirements of Code

Such notification to be made by certified mail, with return receipt requested.

L. Change in Nature of Use

The (Person in Responsible Charge) *shall* be notified by the consumer the nature of use of the property changes so as to change the hazard classification of that property, as set forth in the Hazardous Uses and Other Connections Sections of this code.

M. Consumer Responsibilities

1. The consumer *shall*, upon notification, as defined in Section 8-0011 of this code, install the hazard containment device(s) as required within 90 days from the date of notification.
2. If, after expiration of ninety (90) days, the containment device(s) has not been installed in conformance with standards set by the (Person in Responsible Charge), in a proper working condition, the (Person in Responsible Charge) may discontinue the public water supply service at that premises, and service shall not be restored until such devices have been installed. The (Person in Responsible Charge) may permit an extension of up to ninety (90) additional days if compliance efforts are underway and the existence of hardship can be demonstrated.
3. The County *shall* bear no liability for direct or consequential damages proximately caused by the discontinuance of service pursuant to this section.

N. Testing and Maintenance of Devices

The consumer at each property at which containment and/or confinement device(s) have been installed, except those with devices installed in accordance with the Other Connections Section (a) of this code, shall have each containment and/or confinement device(s) tested on an annual basis, and perform any routine maintenance to such device as recommended by the manufacturer, and provide the cross connection coordinator with a report of that inspection and work. The consumer *shall* cause such maintenance, or repairs to be made, rendering the device fully operational. Failure of the consumer to perform that testing and maintenance *shall* be cause for the premises to be deemed

an immediate public health hazard. The (Person in Responsible Charge) *may* immediately thereafter discontinue public water supply service to that premises and service *shall* not be restored until such devices have been rendered operational. Where the use of water is critical to the continuance of normal operations or protection of life, property, or equipment, duplicated containment or confinement devices shall be provided by the property owner to avoid the necessity of discontinuing water service to test or repair the device or devices.

O. New In-Ground Irrigation Systems

All in-ground irrigation systems served by the County's water system and installed after July 1, 2009, shall be required to have a separate irrigation water meter. Prior to the installation of a new in-ground irrigation system to be connected to the County's water system, the customer shall request the County to install and operate a County-approved irrigation meter pursuant to procedures established (and as modified from time-to-time) by the County. All such irrigation meters, meter boxes, pipes and other equipment furnished or used by the County in installing any such irrigation meter shall be and remain the property of the County. Prior to installation of any such irrigation meter, the customer shall pay to the County all charges specified in the schedule of fees established (and as modified from time-to-time) by the County.

P. Limitation of Liability

The County *shall* not be held liable, for any cause, for failure to detect any unit failing to operate adequately, or failure to identify any specific hazard, which *may* result in contamination of its public water supply, nor *shall* this ordinance diminish the responsibility of any property owner from whose property a contamination of the public water supply *may* originate.

V. INITIAL OR MINIMUM CHARGE

- A. The initial or minimum charge, as provided in the rate schedule, shall be made for each meter installed, regardless of location. Each meter requires a separate meter reading sheet, and each meter reading sheet shall cover a separate and individual account.
- B. In areas where service is furnished to a consumer during certain months only, the minimum charge per service for the period of non-use shall be the regular minimum as set out in the published rate of the County.

VI. COUNTY'S RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY

- A. The County shall run a service line from its distribution line to the property line where the distribution line runs immediately adjacent and parallel to the property to be served, and for which a tap-on fee then in effect for each size of meter will be charged.
- B. The County may install its meter and check valve at the property line or, at the County's option, on the consumer's property or in a location mutually agreed upon, if an easement is provided to the County.
- C. When two or more meters are to be installed on the same premises for different consumers, they shall be closely grouped and each clearly designated to which consumer it applies.
- D. The County reserves the right to inspect the consumer's service piping but does not assume the responsibility of inspecting the consumer's piping or apparatus and will not be responsible therefore.
- E. The County reserves the right to refuse service unless the consumer's line or piping is installed in such manner as to prevent cross-connections or backflow and multiple hook-ups. Under no conditions shall cross-connections with the County System be permitted.
- F. The county shall not be liable for damage of any kind whatsoever resulting from water or the use of water on the consumer's premises, unless such damage results directly from negligence on the part of the County. The county shall not be responsible for any damage done by or resulting from any defect in the piping, fixtures or appliances on the consumer's premises. The County shall not be responsible for negligence of third persons or forces beyond the control of the County resulting in any interruption of service.
- G. Under normal conditions, the consumer will be notified of any anticipated interruption of service.

VII. CONSUMER'S RESPONSIBILITY

- A. Piping on the consumer's premises must be so arranged that the connections are conveniently located with respect to the County's lines or mains.
- B. If the consumer's piping on consumer's premise is so arranged that the County is called upon to provide additional meters, each place of metering will be considered as a separate and individual account.
- C. Where meter is placed on premises of a consumer, a suitable place shall be provided by consumer for placing such meter-unobstructed and accessible at all times to the meter reader.
- D. The consumer shall furnish and maintain a private cutoff valve on the consumer's side of the meter; the County to provide a cut-off valve on the County's side of such meter.
- E. The consumer's piping and apparatus shall be installed and maintained by the consumer at the consumer's expense in a safe and efficient manner and in accordance with the County's rules and regulations and in full compliance

with the sanitary regulations of the North Carolina Department of Human Resources.

- F. The consumer shall guarantee proper protection for the County's property placed on the consumer's premises and shall permit access to it only by authorized representatives of the County.
- G. In the event that any loss or damage to the property of the County or any accident or injury to persons or property is caused by or results from the negligence or wrongful act of the consumer, his agents or employees, the cost of the necessary repairs or replacements shall be paid by the consumer to the County; and any liability otherwise resulting shall be assumed by the consumer. Repairs to meter boxes and equipment shall be such amount as established by the Jones County Board of Commissioners. The amount of such loss or damage or the cost of repairs shall be added to the consumer's bill; and if not paid, service may be discontinued by the County.

VIII. ACCESS TO PREMISES

- A. Duly authorized agents of the County shall have access at all reasonable hours to the premises of the consumer for the purpose of installing or removing County property, inspecting piping, reading or testing meters or for any other purpose in connection with the County's service and facilities.
- B. Each consumer shall grant or convey or shall cause to be granted or conveyed, to the County a perpetual easement and right of way across any property owned or controlled by the consumer wherever said perpetual easement and right of way is necessary for the County water facilities and lines so as to be able to furnish service to the consumer.

IX. CHANGE OF OCCUPANCY

- A. Not less than three days notice must be given in person or in writing, at the County's office, to discontinue service for a change of occupancy.
- B. The outgoing party shall be responsible for all water consumed up to the time of departure or the time specified for departure, whichever period is longer.

X. METER READING AND SOLID WASTE BILLING-COLLECTING

- A. Meters will be read and bills rendered monthly; but the County reserves the right to vary the dates or length of period covered, temporarily or permanently if necessary or desirable.
- B. Bills for water will be figure in accordance with the County's published rate schedule then in effect and will be based on the amount consumed for the period covered by the meter readings.
- C. Charge for service commences when meter is installed and connection made, whether used or not. Sixty days may be allowed for hookup on initial installation of the water system.

- D. Readings from different meters will not be combined for billing, irrespective of the fact that said meters may be for the same or different premises, or for the same or different consumers, or for the same or different services.
- E. Bills are due when rendered and become delinquent twenty days thereafter. Services are subject to be discontinued when two bills become delinquent. **(see XI.C. for restoration of services)**. Prior to disconnection, on a 2 month delinquent account, a payment for one month (oldest bill) will be accepted up until the actual meter read day; on meter read day total balance due plus a late penalty fee of \$40.00 will be required in order to maintain water services. Fee is subject to change. Please see current fee schedule for rates.
- F. Failure to receive bills or notices shall not prevent such bills from becoming delinquent or relieve the consumer from payment.
- G. If a user finds that they have a leak from the meter to their point of use and they note a substantial increase to their bill and that this leak is verified by the water supervisor, an adjustment to one bill during a twelve month period may be granted.

$$\frac{\text{Water bill minus 12 mo. Average}}{2} + 12 \text{ mo. Average} = \text{amount billed}$$

- H. There will be a **\$25.00** service charge on all checks returned in the water dept. Fee is subject to change. Please see current fee schedule for rates.
- I. Any residence or small commercial property that voluntarily requests solid waste collection service from the County, or through a third-party entity under contract with the County for the same, shall be billed for such solid waste collection service on its water bill. The amount and frequency of such billing for solid waste collections shall be as established from time-to-time by the Board of Commissioners.
- J. In those circumstances where a property is also receiving solid waste collections services from or through the County, any partial payment shall be applied first to payment of the solid waste collection bill, and any balance shall then be applied to the water bill, unless directed otherwise by customer.

XI. SUSPENSION OF SERVICE

- A. When services are discontinued and all bills paid in full, the deposit will be refunded.
- B. Upon discontinuance of service for nonpayment of bills, the deposit will be applied by the County toward settlement of the account. Any balance will be refunded to the consumer; but if the deposit is not sufficient to cover the bill, the County may proceed to collect the balance in the usual way provided by law for the collection of debts.

- C. Service discontinued for nonpayment of bills will be restored only after bills are paid in full, and a service charge of \$40.00 is paid for each meter reconnected. Fee is subject to change. Please see current fee schedule for rates. Payments made after 3:00pm will result in services NOT being restored until the next business day.
- D. The county reserves the right to discontinue its service without notice for the following additional reasons:
 - 1. To prevent fraud and abuse.
 - 2. Consumers willful disregard of the County's rules.
 - 3. Emergency repairs.
 - 4. Insufficiency of supply due to circumstances beyond the County's control.
 - 5. Legal procedures.
 - 6. Direction of public authorities.
 - 7. Strike, riot, fire, flood, or accident of any unavoidable cause.
- E. The County may, in addition to prosecution by law, permanently refuse service to any consumer who tampers with a meter or other measuring device.

XII. COMPLAINTS-ADJUSTMENTS

- A. If the consumer believes his bill to be in error, he shall present his claim, in person, at the County's office before the bill becomes delinquent. Such claim if made after the bill has become delinquent, shall not be effective in preventing discontinuance of service as heretofore provided. The consumer may pay such bill under protest and said payment shall not prejudice his claim.
- B. The County will make special meter readings at the request of the consumer for a fee of \$10.00 provided, however, that if such special reading discloses that the meter was over-read, no charge will be made.
- C. Meters will be tested at the request of the consumer upon payment to the County in the amount of \$10.00; however, if the meter is found to over-register beyond five percent of the correct volume, the charge will be refunded.
- D. If the seal of a meter is broken by other than the County's representative or if the meter fails to register correctly or is stopped for any cause, the consumer shall pay an amount estimated from the record of his previous bill and/or from other proper data.

XIII. EXTENSIONS TO MAINS AND SERVICES

- A. Privately Funded Extensions
 - 1. Privately financed water distribution line extensions shall be approved and installed as follows:

- a. The developer will comply with the “Checklist Procedure” and policy in effect at the time of application for approval of a privately financed extension.
- b. The developer will submit plans for review and approval by the County, its engineer and the North Carolina Department of Human Resources.
- c. The developer will be responsible for the cost of the extension.
- d. The extension will be installed in accordance with the approved plans.
- e. Upon completion of the new extension, the developer will deed the complete facility, to include all rights of way, easements, permits, franchises and authorizations or other instruments needed for the operation and maintenance of the facility, to the County. The County will not reimburse the developer for the extension.
- f. Upon completion of the next extension, the developer shall be responsible for providing the owner as-built drawings. The as-built drawings must be certified by the developer’s engineer that construction was according to plans and specifications.

B. County Funded Extensions

County funded water distribution line extensions shall be approved and installed as follows:

1. The plans for the extension will be submitted for review and approval to the County, its engineer and the North Carolina Department of Human Resources.
2. The lines will be installed in accordance with the approved plans and certified by the County’s engineer.
3. Water lines shall not be installed by the County on private property or roads with less than two users.

C. Priorities for County Funded Extensions

Priorities for water line extensions, shall be established by the Jones County Board of Commissioners based upon the following:

1. Engineering considerations and recommendations, which include hydraulics, level of service, supply, storage, system operations and funding.
2. Cost per user

(a) Only occupied homes and businesses for which a tap-on fee has been paid will be considered as a tap when computing priority rankings.

1. If an owner can establish that the construction of a home or business will begin within six months, the proposed facility will be considered as a tap.

(b) Ranking used for priority of construction will be based upon cost per user.

(c) Ranking is computed by dividing the number of paid tap-ons into the total cost of the proposed line. Ranking shall be from highest to lowest based upon lowest to highest cost per user.

3. Board Discretion

XIV. ABRIDGEMENT OR MODIFICATION OF RULES

- a. No promise, agreement, or representation of any employee of the County shall be binding upon the County, except as it shall have been agreed upon in writing, signed and accepted by the acknowledged officers of the County.
- b. No modification of rates or any of the rules and regulations shall be made by any agent of the County.

XV. AMENDMENTS

- c. Subject to change at any time by majority decision of the Jones County Board of Commissioners, notice of any amendment will be mailed with the next meter bill of each meter and will give effective date of change.

XVI. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

1. Any violation of the provisions of these Water System Rules and Regulations, or failure to comply with any of its requirements, shall constitute a misdemeanor as provided in N.C.G.S. Section 14-4.
2. Any act constituting a violation of the provisions of these Water System Rules and Regulations, or a failure to comply with any of its requirements, shall also subject the offender to a civil penalty of \$500.00, which includes administrative fees. If the offender fails to correct this violation within ten (10) days after being notified of said violation, the penalty may be recovered in a civil action in the nature of a debt. Further, the same may also be enforced by any appropriate equitable action authorized by law, including injunctive relief.

3. Each day that any violation continues, regardless of the date of notice, shall constitute a separate offense.
4. Any one, all, or any combination of the foregoing penalties and remedies may be used to enforce these Water System Rules and Regulations.

XVII. ADOPTION OF RULES

Until further order of the Jones County Board of Commissioners, the rules and regulations, as the same are hereinabove set out, are hereby adopted as of the date hereof to become effective on and after July 1, 2009.

Adopted this the 6th day of July, 2009.

Attest:

Clerk to the Board

Chairman

(SEAL)